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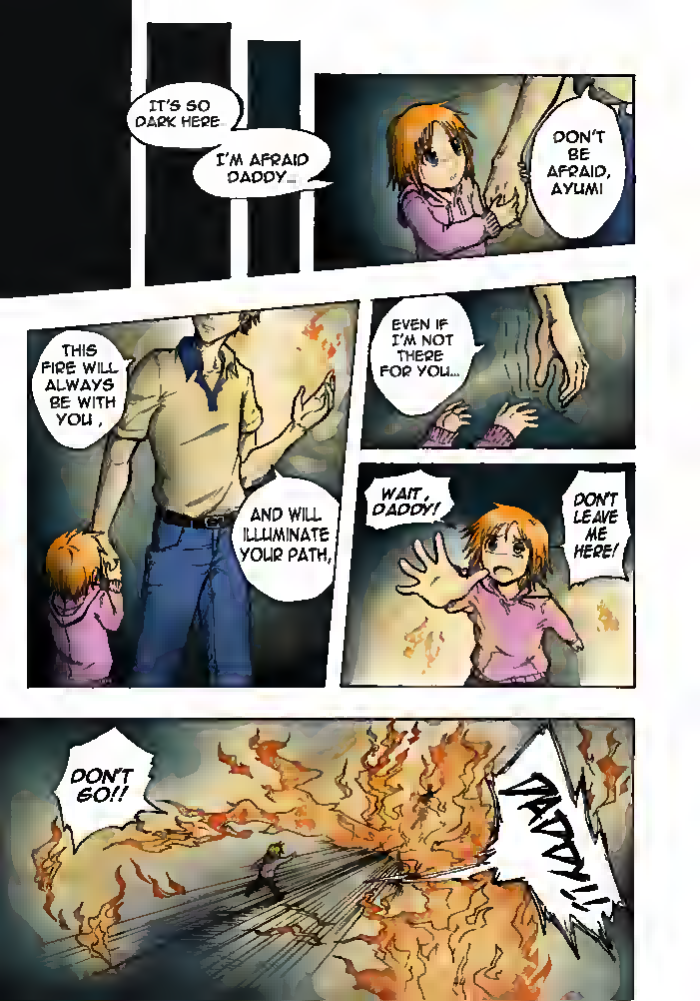
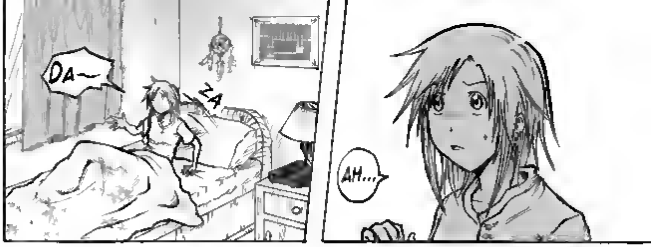
SAIGAMI
chapter 1:
It all began with
a letter...

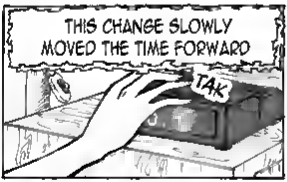
STORY AND ART
BY
ANDREA OTÍLIA
VÖRÖS
SAIGAMI
VOLUME ONE
AVAILABLE
NOW!
ALL
NEW
YouTube
WWW.YOUTUBE.COM/MYFUTPRINT
SATURDAY
TANKS


IT'S SO DARK HERE
I'M AFRAID DADDY...
DON'T BE AFRAID, AYUMI
THIS FIRE WILL ALWAYS BE WITH YOU,
AND WILL ILLUMINATE YOUR PATH,
EVEN IF I'M NOT THERE FOR YOU...
WAIT, DADDY!
DON'T LEAVE ME HERE!
DON'T GO!!
DADDY!!


DA~
ZA
AH...

VHUP
JUST A STUPID DREAM AGAIN!
I WAS QUITE SMALL WHEN MY FATHER LEFT ME

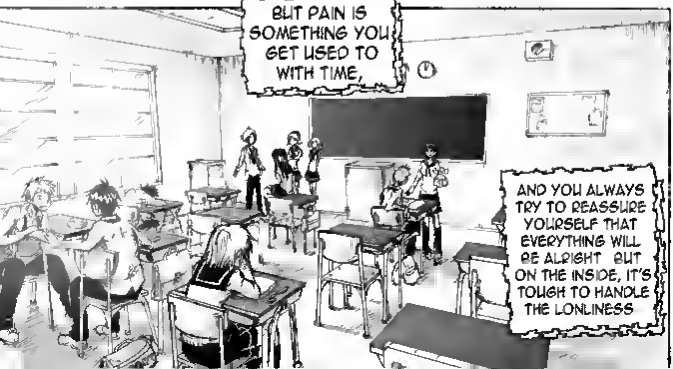
BEEP
BEEP
BEEP
BACK THEN I DIDN'T REALLY UNDERSTAND WHAT WAS HAPPENING I ONLY NOTICED THE THINGS THAT CHANGED AROUND ME


THIS CHANGE SLOWLY MOVED THE TIME FORWARD
TAK

AND WITH THAT, THE MEMORIES OF MY PAST PERISHED

IT ALWAYS HURT THAT I DIDN'T HAVE HAPPY SMILING FAMILY PORTRAITS HUNG ON MY WALL,
THAT I WAS NEVER ACCOMPANIED TO SCHOOL AS A CHILD
BZZZ
BZZZ

I'll be late
Overtime. Don't wait for me with dinner
AND COMING HOME THE ONLY THING WAITING FOR ME WAS EMPTINESS.
JUST LIKE ALWAYS
hah


BUT PAIN IS SOMETHING YOU GET USED TO WITH TIME,
AND YOU ALWAYS TRY TO REASSURE YOURSELF THAT EVERYTHING WILL BE ALRIGHT BUT ON THE INSIDE, IT'S TOUGH TO HANDLE THE LONLINESS

MAYBE THIS WAS THE FEELING THAT I JUST COULDN'T BEAR ANYMORE,
WHEN I MADE THE DECISION ON THAT DAY,
TO LEAVE THE EMPTINESS BEHIND.
I CAN'T BELIVE THIS!
A LETTER FROM DAD?!
BUT WHY JUST.. WHY NOW?
AND WHAT DOES HE WANT AT A TIME LIKE THIS?

"LET'S MEET TODAY AT 4 O'CLOCK PM IN THE LOCAL SAILBOAT PORT"
HA
HA
HA
HAH
15.59
I MADE IT SOME-HOW!
HAH
NO ONE'S HERE.
THIS IS THE ONLY LOCAL PORT, RIGHT? RIGHT?
FUU
HE'S LATE
OR MAYBE THIS WHOLE THING IS JUST SOME SICK JOKE?
16:09
16:13
16:17
YEAH IT HAS TO BE SO

BUT THEN WHAT AM I WAITING FOR ?
?!
Pit
Pat
Pat
Pit
Pat
Pat
AAAAAAH
RAIN?
THAT'S THE LAST THING I NEED..
I'M JUST DELUDING MYSELF WITH FALSE HOPES.
IT'S BETTER IF I GO HOME NOW

KRA
TTON
SLIP

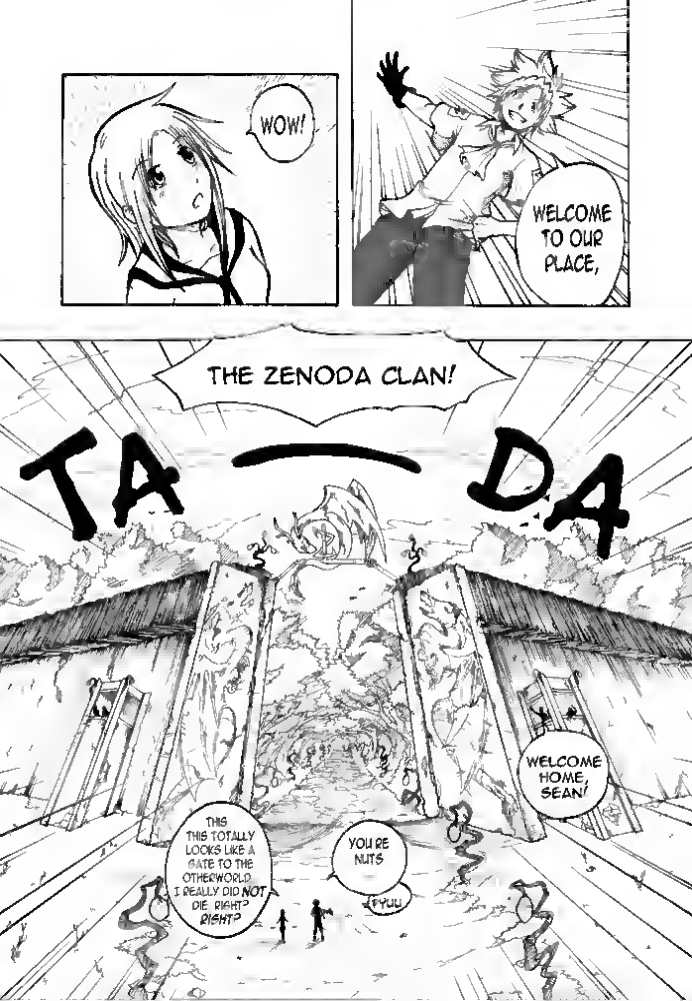
SPLASH
KYAA!!
NO!
NOT THIS!
I CAN'T-
AAAA
BLUB
BLUB
BLUB
BLUB
BLUB
I CAN'T SWIM!
I CAN'T BREATHE-
I'LL-
I'LL-
BLUB
BLUB
BLUB

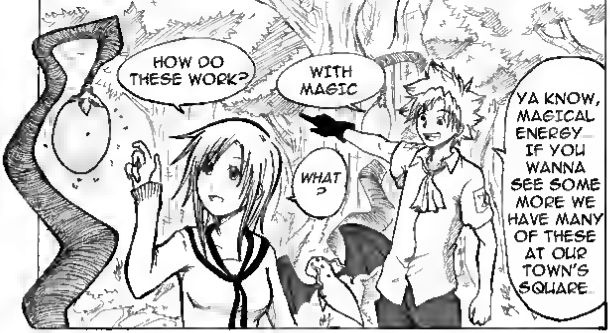
DA-DAM
!
WHA-WHA-
WHAT IS THIS?
РУИИ
AND...
WHERE AM I ??

WHEE
PUHH
CHILL OUT!
HE WON'T HURT YA!
CHIBIGON IS MY DRAGON SO YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE AFRAID.
THIS?
THIS IS A... DRAGON??
O-OKAY... AND YOU? WHO'RE YOU?

NA
!
SPLASH
SEAN, FROM THE ZENODA CLAN AT YOUR SERVICE. AND YOU?
HANASAKI AYUMI.
BUT SOMEHOW I HAD THE FEELING I COULD TRUST HIM.
I NEVER MET THIS BOY BEFORE,
SO I JUST BLUNTLY TOLD HIM EVERYTHING THAT HAD HAPPENED SINCE THE ARRIVAL OF THE LETTER.

SO,
THIS PLACE HERE IS NOT THE SAME.
RIGHT?
? ?
I HAVE NO CLUE WHAT YOU'RE TALKING 'BOUT, BUT IT'S NICE TO MEET YA ANYWAY!
ALTHOUGH I STILL DIDN'T KNOW WHERE I WAS, AND WHY WAS I THERE
AT LEAST I WAS ALIVE.


WOW!
WELCOME TO OUR PLACE,
THE ZENODA CLAN!
TA—DA
WELCOME HOME, SEAN!
THIS THIS TOTALLY LOOKS LIKE A GATE TO THE OTHERWORLD. I REALLY DID NOT DIE, RIGHT? RIGHT?
YOU'RE NUTS
FYUU


HOW DO THESE WORK?
WITH MAGIC
WHAT ?
YA KNOW, MAGICAL ENERGY IF YOU WANNA SEE SOME MORE WE HAVE MANY OF THESE AT OUR TOWN'S SQUARE

!
SNIFF SNIFF

TIK
HA ?

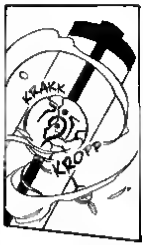
?
YHA

WOA!!
Pyuu
THIS... THIS...
YUP, IT'S A DRA-GON.
YEAA... ALSO YOURS?
NOPE, SHE'S SHAROSON, SHE BELONGS TO MY BIG BROTHER
HAVING A DRAGON IS A STANDARD HERE??

YA KNOW THIS HERE IS THE ZENODA,
ALSO KNOWN AS DRAGON-TAMING CLAN!
SO IT TOTALLY IS...

OH AND THIS... I GUESS THIS IS MINE...
LUCKILY I HAVE MY GLOVE ON
NO WAY I'D TOUCH THAT!
EEK! THAT'S DISGUSTING!

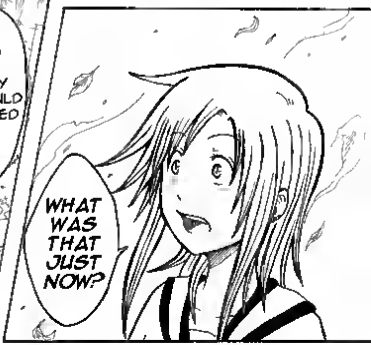
I HAVE TO... WE ONLY USE THESE KINDS OF MESSAGES FOR IMPORTANT CASES
WELL, THAT EXPLAINS THE DRAGON
NOPE, THAT'S NOT THE POINT! THE TRICK IS
THAT ONLY A SKILLED SAIGAMI CAN OPEN THIS!
SAIGA- WHAT THE?


KRAKK
KRAPP

KRAK

ZUSH

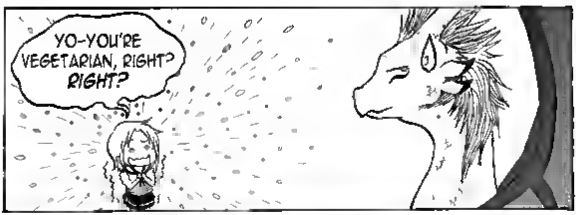
LET'S SEE, WHAT DO WE HAVE HERE.
SAM AND DAD SENT IT
BAH, THEY REALLY COULD HAVE WAITED UNTIL I CAME HOME


WHAT WAS THAT JUST NOW?

JUST AN UNSEALING TECHNIC INVENTED BY MY FAM!-
AH!
WOHOO, REIJI IS HERE, FINALLY!
LOOK-LOOK, I HAFTA GO NOW TO FIND SOMEONE,
BUT AFTER THAT LET'S MEET BY THE FOUNTAIN AT THE MAIN SQUARE, 'KAY?
TA
BUT I DON'T EVEN KNOW WHERE THAT IS!
NO PROB, THEN SHAROSON WILL ESCORT YA!

TMP
TMP
TMP
TMP
TMP
huh
TMP
brr

?
shiver


YO-YOU'RE VEGETARIAN, RIGHT? RIGHT?

I FELT LIKE I WASN'T MYSELF ANYMORE
I SHOULD HAVE BEEN WORRIED, BUT THE CHARM OF THIS PLACE MADE ME
WONDROUS! DRAGONS EVERYWHERE AND PEOPLE SEEM TO BE PLAYING WITH THE WIND.
ENTIRELY FASCINATED.
HEY, LOOK OUT!
?

ZA
TANG
Bam
SO-SORRY!!
ER COULD YOU THROW IT BACK? I'M OUT OF THE GAME IF I TOUCH IT
AHAHA WE CAN SEE YA NO CHEATING!
HURRY!
SRA
PAY MORE ATTENTION, GUYS!

SLAM
VHOOM
THANKS!
PSYHA
OH BOY!
WA!
YA
DIAK
KRR
KRM
KRR
WHOOPS..
WHAT DID I TELL YOU...

WHAT THE..?!
ARE THOSE DRAGONS TOO?
CAN'T YOU SEE?! THEY'RE JUST BUMBLE-BIRDS.
?
BZZZ
BZZAA
UWA! GO AWAY!!
BZZ
RUN!!
FWA
JUST?! BUT THEY'RE ATTACKING!

Spl
Tch
SWOO
SH

ARE YOU GUYS OKAY?
YE-YEAH
!!
HOW DID YOU DO THAT?!
WHAT, THAT??
I'M A SAIGAMI.
REIJI!!
SEAN?
. . . . . .
?
!
TA

WHADDE BLOODY STORM ARE YOU DOING?!
UH?
I'VE BEEN SEARCHING FOR YOU LIKE CRAZY, AND YA'RE HERE RAMPAGING? WHAT DID THOSE POOR BIRDS EVER DO TO YOU!?
SHAKE
YOU SURE THAT'S ALL YOU HAVE TO SAY AFTER FIVE YEARS?
TSK
DEAR FRIEND, 'TIS A PLEASURE TO SEE YOU AGAIN!
BUT DON'T YOU DARE TO ATTACK THE BIRDS EVER AGAIN, GOT IT?!
SCREW YOU
I JUST PROTECTED THE BOYS
THEY WOULDN'T HAVE HARMED THEM.
DIDN'T SEEM SO
EVERY-ONE HERE KNOWS HOW REACE-FUL THESE CREATURES ARE. THEY WERE JUST NOISY.
EVERYONE, SURE ESPECIALLY THE GIRL, WHO THOUGHT THEY WERE DRAGONS
LEAVE ME OUT OF THIS!!

FINE, FINE, WHATEVER... BUT LET'S GO NOW TO MY OLD MAN, 'KAY?
HA? ME? BUT WHY??
'CUZ HE'S THE LEADER OF OUR CLAN, SO IF ANYONE CAN HELP YA OUT, IT'S MY DAD!
KNOCK KNOCK
AH, BOYS SO YOU MANAGED TO FIND EACH OTHER? COME IN!
Zenoda Simon
Father of Sean, Clan leader
Zenoda Sam
Sean's brother owner of Sharogon

AND WHO ARE YOU??
GOOD QUESTION
HANASAKI AYUMI, SIR..
AND THERE I WAS TELLING THE STORY OF THAT DAY AGAIN. THEIR SILENT LISTENING WAS EMBARRASSING THE WHOLE TIME,
AND I COULDN'T GET RID OF THE FEELING THAT I SURELY LOOKED LIKE AN IDIOT
I COULDN'T EVEN UNDERSTAND MOST OF THEIR DISCUSSION, AND THE ONLY ANSWER I GOT WAS, THAT I COULD STAY AT THE CLAN UNTIL A BETTER SOLUTION IS FOUND.
I WITNESSED MANY THINGS IN MY LIFE, BUT I NEVER HEARD ABOUT SOMETHING LIKE THIS...

THERE WAS JUST NO WAY I COULD HAVE ACCEPTED THIS IMPOSSIBLE SITUATION
THE ONLY THING I WAS SURE ABOUT WAS THE FACT THAT I DIDN'T UNDERSTAND A THING
THUD
I JUST ... WANTED TO GO HOME

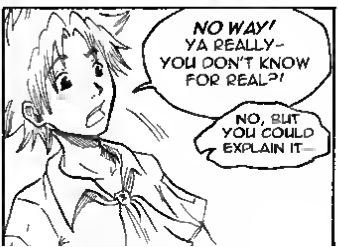
I SHOULD HAVE BEEN REALLY TIRED, BUT I JUST COULDN'T FALL ASLEEP
THE IDEA OF ME STROLLING OUTSIDE AT NIGHT IN THIS PLACE SEEMED KINDA BIZARRE, BUT...
I FIGURED WALKING AROUND THE MAIN SQUARE AGAIN COULD EASE MY THOUGHTS AND HELP CALM ME DOWN. BUT WHEN I GOT THERE-
DON'T SCREW WITH ME SEAN! EVEN YOU CAN'T CONSIDER THIS A GOOD IDEA!!
BUT I SURE DO!! SAM AND DAD ALSO THINK THIS COULD BE ONE OF THE BEST SOLUTIONS

I UNDER-STAND YOU WANNA HELP, BUT FOR THIS JOURNEY
WE DON'T NEED SUCH A DRAG! YOU DON'T EVEN KNOW THIS GIRL, AND SHE'S NOT EVEN A SAIGAMI!

!!
AND WHAT IS THAT?

WHAT'S A SAIGAMI ??

SHE CAN'T BE THIS DENSE! IT'S REALLY AS IF SHE WERE FROM ANOTHER PLANET-


NO WAY! YA REALLY- YOU DON'T KNOW FOR REAL?!
NO, BUT YOU COULD EXPLAIN IT-

LEMME THINK... WE, SO THE SAIGAMIS... WE HAVE THESE SUPERNATURAL POWERS, AND THEPE'S THE ORDER, AND... AAND
. . . . . .
AND I CAN'T BELIEVE YA DON'T KNOW!
IT MIGHT BE TOUGH TO GRASP SINCE YOU WEREN'T BORN INTO THIS, BUT IN A NUTSHELL, SAIGAMI ARE PEOPLE WHO HAVE PARTIAL CONTROL OVER THE ASTRAL PLANE, THUS GRANTING THEM A SORT OF ELEMENTAL POWER
ASTRAL... ELEMENTAL POWER??
IF IT'S EASIER, YOU CAN THINK ABOUT IT AS THE CONTROL OF A GIVEN NATURAL ELEMENT

BUT OF COURSE, IT'S FAR MORE THAN JUST ELEMENTAL MANIPULATION
ALTOUGH ONLY A SMALL PERCENT OF PEOPLE ARE SAIGAMIS, WE'RE STILL CONSIDERED AS A SIGNIFICANT POWER, HENCE WE ALL BELONG TO THE ORDER OF THE SAIGAMI IN ONE WAY OR ANOTHER
IT'S A SPECIAL, INDEPENDENT ORGANIZATION, OR BETTER SAID, AN AUTONOMOUS MILITARY FORCE WITH ITS OWN HIERARCHY AND LEGISLATURE
SOUNDS LIKE SOME KINDA SECT
IT AIN'T ONE! SAIGAMIS TRAVEL ALL AROUND THE WORLD AND DO A LOT OF EXCITING STUFF! HELPING PEOPLE, FIGHTING FOR PEACE, ALL SORTS OF COOL THINGS!
SHVR
TRAVEL ALL AROUND THE WORLD?
SO... YOU TOO?
YUP! THE WHOLE THING IS LIKE A HUGE ODYSSEY OF ADVENTURE AND TOMORROW WE FINALLY START OUT FOR THE GREAT JOURNEY!

SO THIS IS THE JOURNEY WHERE I'D ONLY BE A DRAG?
I DON'T EVEN KNOW WHERE THEY'D BE TRAVELING TO, AND I DON'T EVEN KNOW THESE GUYS AT ALL.. BUT THEN, WHY AM I...
MAYBE THIS WAS THE FEELING, THAT I JUST
COULDN'T BEAR ANYMORE, WHEN I
MADE THE DECISION ON THAT DAY
I
LET ME GO WITH YOU!!

WELCOME TO THE TEAM!
SEAN, THIS JOURNEY COULD BE DANGEROUS
IT'S NOT FOR HER.

SO NOW YA'RE GRUMPY 'CAUSE WE'VE VOTED YA DOWN?
LIKE HELL I AM! I'M JUST BEING REALISTIC HERE!
I... I KNOW THAT I DON'T BELONG WITH YOU, BUT NEITHER DO I BELONG HERE!
THAT'S WHY... IF I COULD GO WITH YOU, MAYBE I'D FIND SOMEONE WHO CAN HELP ME GO HOME.

SURE THING! YA CAN COUNT ON US, AYUMI!
DO WHATEVER YOU WANT! SEAN WOULD'VE DRAGGED YOU ALONG ANYWAY.

I DON'T KNOW WHY, BUT I FELT LIKE I'D MADE THE RIGHT DECISION. I HAD A FEELING THAT IT WOULD'VE BEEN BETTER IF I DIDN'T STAY HERE BUT MOVED FORWARD
BUT OF COURSE, I DIDN'T KNOW WHAT I HAD VOLUNTEERED FOR
BACK THEN, I DIDN'T KNOW THAT I HAD STEPPED ONTO A ROAD THAT WOULD CHANGE MY LIFE FOREVER...

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